## HARTLAND DEERFIELD FIRE AUTHORITY

REPORT ON AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2008

#### HARTLAND DEERFIELD FIRE AUTHORITY

#### **AUTHORITY BOARD MEMBERS**

Joe Petrucci - Chairperson Al Mattioli - Vice Chairperson Glenn Harper - Secretary Bruce Dehanke - Trustee Tom Green - Trustee

#### OTHER AUTHORITY BOARD NON-MEMBERS and (non-voting) INDIVIDUALS

Adam Carroll - Fire Chief Susan Dryden-Hogan - Treasurer Jennifer Drew - Assistant Secretary

#### **ATTORNEY**

Gentry Law Offices, P.C.

#### **AUDITORS**

Pfeffer, Hanniford & Palka Certified Public Accountants

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#### PFEFFER • HANNIFORD • PALKA Certified Public Accountants

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August 22, 2008

**Board of Trustees** Hartland Deerfield Fire Authority 3205 Hartland Road Hartland, Michigan 48353

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Honorable Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Hartland Deerfield Fire Authority as of and for the year ended March 31, 2008. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Authority Board. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on the audit.

We conducted the audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that the audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Hartland Deerfield Fire Authority, as of March 31, 2008, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, thereof for the year end in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis and other required supplementary information on pages 6 through 9 and pages 29 through 31 are not a required part of the basic financial statements but are supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Hartland Deerfield Fire Authority's basic financial statements. The supplementary information presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The supplementary information has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

PFEFFER, HANNIFORD & PALKA

Pfeffer, Hanniford & Palka, P.C.

Certified Public Accountants

MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION
AND
ANALYSIS

#### Management Discussion and Analysis March 31, 2008

Within this section of the Hartland Deerfield Fire Authority's annual financial report, the Authority's management is providing a narrative discussion and analysis of the financial activities of the Authority for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2008. This narrative discusses and analyzes the activity within the context of the accompanying financial statements and disclosures following this section. The discussion focuses on the Authority's primary government and, unless otherwise noted, component units reported separately from the primary government are not included.

#### Overview of the Financial Statements

Management's Discussion and Analysis introduces the Authority's basic financial statements. The basic financial statements include government-wide financial statements, fund financial statements, and notes to the financial statements. The Authority also includes in this report additional information to supplement the basic financial statements.

#### **Government-Wide Financial Statements**

The Authority's annual reports include two government-wide financial statements. These statements provide both long-term and short-term information about the Authority's overall status. Financial reporting at this level uses a perspective similar to that found in the private sector with its basis in full accrual accounting and elimination or reclassification of internal activities.

The first of these government-wide statements is the Statement of Net Assets. This is the Authority-wide statement of position presenting information that includes all the Authority's assets and liabilities, with the difference reported as net assets. Over time, increases or decreases in net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Authority as a whole is improving or deteriorating. Evaluation of the overall health of the Authority may extend to various non-financial factors as well.

The second government-wide statement is the Statement of Activities which reports how the Authority's net assets changed during the current fiscal year. The design of this statement is to show the financial reliance of the Authority's distinct activities or functions on the revenues generated by the Authority.

Both government-wide financial statements distinguish governmental activities of the Authority that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges or by taxes collected. The Authority's financial reporting includes all the funds of the Authority and, additionally, organizations for which the Authority is accountable.

#### Fund Financial Statements

A fund is an accountability unit used to maintain control over resources segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Authority uses funds to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related laws and regulations.

The Authority has one kind of fund which is a governmental fund.

Governmental funds are reported in the financial statements and encompass essentially the same functions as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements except with a different focus on the financial activity. These statements report short-term fiscal accountability focusing on the use of spendable resources and balances of these resources available at the end of the year. They are useful in evaluating annual financing requirements of governmental programs and the commitment of spendable resources for the near-term. Since the focus of the government-wide financial statements includes a long-term view, a reconciliation of these fund balances has been completed to detail it's relation to net assets.

#### Notes to the financial statements

The accompanying notes to the financial statements provide information essential to a full understanding of both the government-wide and fund financial statements.

#### Other information

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary information. Other supplementary information includes detail by fund for receivables, payables, transfers, and payments within the reporting entity.

#### Financial Analysis of the Authority as a Whole

The Authority's net assets at the end of the fiscal year were \$900,774. This is a \$28,685 increase over last year's net assets of \$872,089.

The following tables provide a summary of the Authority's financial activities and changes in net assets:

#### **Summary of Net Assets**

	Governmental Activities				
	3/31/2008 3/31/200			3/31/2007	
		_		_	
Current and other assets	\$	518,190	\$	456,110	
Capital assets		729,980		859,619	
Total assets		1,248,170		1,315,729	
Accounts payable		17,685		24,721	
Accrued expenses		55,187		47,998	
Notes and capital leases payable		274,524		370,921	
Total liabilities		347,396	443,640		
Net assets:					
Invested in capital assets		520,974		571,687	
Unrestricted		379,800	_	300,402	
Total not assets	¢	000 774	æ	072.000	
Total net assets	Ф	900,774	<u> </u>	872,089	

#### **Summary of Changes in Net Assets**

	Governmental Activities			
	3/31/2008	3/31/2007		
Revenues:				
Program revenues				
Charges for services	\$ 43,341	\$ 42,822		
Operating grants and contributions General revenues	1,095,566	904,761		
Interest income	12,966	12,757		
Other	3,310	3,582		
Total revenues	1,155,183	963,922		
Expenses for fire protection	1,126,498	1,165,579		
Increase (decrease) in net assets	28,685	(201,657)		
Beginning net assets	872,089	1,073,746		
Ending net assets	\$ 900,774	\$ 872,089		

#### Financial Analysis of the Authority's Funds

The Authority's General Fund had excess revenues over expenditures of \$58,792 before transferring \$165,235 to open the Authority's other major fund, the Capital Reserve Equipment Fund, giving an ending general fund balance of \$276,948.

#### **General Fund Budgetary Highlights**

The original General Fund budget adopted by the Authority was created prior to the beginning of the fiscal year outlining the Authority's anticipated financial operations. An amendment was required from the originally adopted budget to reflect the economic reality of the Authority, and transfers to create the new Capital Reserve Equipment Fund.

#### Capital Asset and Debt Administration

The Authority did not purchase or dispose of any capital assts during the fiscal year ended March 31, 2008.

No new debt was incurred by the Authority, but did pay \$96,397 of principal on the outstanding debt held by the Authority. Total long-term debt at March 31, 2008 was \$274,524.

#### **Economic Conditions and Future Activities**

Future operations will continue to be funded by contributions from member municipalities. However, since Tyrone Township has terminated its membership effective March 31, 2007 there is some uncertainty as to the long-term financial ramifications this event will cause.

#### Contacting the Authority's Financial Management

This report is designed to provide a general overview of the Authority's financial position and comply with finance-related regulations. If you have any further questions about this report or request additional information please contact the Hartland Deerfield Fire Authority.

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS GOVERNMENT-WIDE

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#### HARTLAND DEERFIELD FIRE AUTHORITY STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS MARCH 31, 2008

	Governmental Activities
<u>ASSETS</u>	
ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 349,444
Receivables	
Fire runs	12,067
Tyrone Township	156,000
State	679
Capital assets - net of depreciation	729,980
Total assets	1,248,170
<u>LIABILITIES</u>	
LIABILITIES	
Accounts payable	17,685
Accrued wages/taxes	30,263
Accrued vacation and sick time	11,712
Accrued pension	13,212
Note payable - Hartland Township	47.474
Current	17,471
Non-current	48,047
Capital leases payable	67.006
Current	67,986 141,030
Non-current	141,020
Total liabilities	347,396
NET ASSETS	
NET ASSETS	
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	520,974
Unrestricted	379,800_
Total net assets	\$ 900,774

#### HARTLAND DEERFIELD FIRE AUTHORITY STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2008

		Programs Revenues			•	Expenses) nues and	
Functions/Programs	Expenses		arges for ervices	(	Operating ontributions		nanges in et Assets
Governmental activities: Fire protection Interest on long-term debt	\$ (1,113,029) (13,469)	\$	43,341	\$	1,095,566	\$	25,878 (13,469)
Total governmental activities	\$ (1,126,498)	\$	43,341	\$	1,095,566		12,409
	General Revenues: Interest income Other income						12,966 3,310
	Total general	revenues	6				16,276
	Changes in ne	et assets					28,685
	Net assets, April 1,	2007					872,089
	Net assets, March 3	31, 2008				\$	900,774

FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### HARTLAND DEERFIELD FIRE AUTHORITY BALANCE SHEET GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS MARCH 31, 2008

ASSETS	 General Fund	•	ital Reserve quipment Fund		Total
AGGLIG					
ASSETS					
Cash	\$ 247,024	\$	102,420	\$	349,444
Accounts receivable					
State	679				679
Fire runs	12,067				12,067
Tyrone Township					
Operations	156,000				156,000
Due from other funds			65,950		65,950
Total assets	\$ 415,770	\$	168,370	\$	584,140
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE					
LIABILITIES					
Accounts payable	\$ 17,685	\$		\$	17,685
Accrued wages	25,493				25,493
Accrued wages and sick time	11,712				11,712
Accrued payroll taxes	4,770				4,770
Accrued pension	13,212				13,212
Due to other funds	65,950				65,950
Total liabilities	 138,822				138,822
FUND BALANCES					
Fund balance - undesignated	276,948		168,370	-	445,318
Total liabilities and fund balances	\$ 415,770	\$	168,370	\$	584,140

#### HARTLAND DEERFIELD FIRE AUTHORITY RECONCILIATION OF STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE BALANCE SHEET MARCH 31, 2008

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Assets are different because:

Total fund balance per balance sheet		\$ 445,318
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore, are not reported in the funds.  Historical cost Accumulated depreciation	\$ 1,507,481 (777,501)	
Capital assets net of depreciation		729,980
Some liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds. These include:  Note payable - Hartland Township  Bonds payable	(65,518) (209,006)	
Total		 (274,524)
Net assets of governmental activities		\$ 900,774

## HARTLAND DEERFIELD FIRE AUTHORITY STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2008

	 General Fund	Capital R Equipr Fur	ment	 Total
REVENUES Hartland Township - operating contributions Deerfield Township - operating contributions Fire runs Interest income Other revenue	\$ 896,502 199,064 43,341 9,831 3,310	\$	3,135	\$ 896,502 199,064 43,341 12,966 3,310
Total revenues	1,152,048		3,135	1,155,183
EXPENDITURES Current Personnel Employment	734,543 21,499			734,543 21,499
Administrative services and supplies Contractual services Operating supplies Repairs and maintenance Utilities	38,349 41,766 51,770 56,528 29,585			38,349 41,766 51,770 56,528 29,585
Capital outlay Fire protection Debt service Principal Interest	9,350 96,397 13,469			9,350 96,397 13,469
Total expenditures	 1,093,256			1,093,256
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	58,792		3,135	61,927
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES) Transfers in Transfers (out)	 (165,235)	1	65,235	165,235 (165,235)
Total other financing sources (uses)	 (165,235)	1	65,235	
Net changes in fund balances	(106,443)	1	68,370	61,927
FUND BALANCE, APRIL 1, 2007	 383,391			383,391
FUND BALANCE, MARCH 31, 2008	\$ 276,948	\$ 1	68,370	\$ 445,318

## HARTLAND DEERFIELD FIRE AUTHORITY RECONCILIATION OF STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2008

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:

Net change in fund balances - governmental funds	Φ	61,927
Net change in tung palances - governmental tungs	ъ	61.927

Governmental funds report capital outlay as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities the cost of those assets is allocated over their useful lives as depreciation expense.

Depreciation expense (129,639)

Repayment of long-term debt is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the Statement of Net Assets.

Repayment of:

Notes payable - Hartland Township \$ 17,471 Capital leases payable 78,926

Change in net assets of governmental activities \$ 28,685

96,397

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#### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### A. REPORTING ENTITY

The Hartland Deerfield Fire Authority was organized under Public Act No. 57, of the Public Acts of 1988, as amended in December of 2001 on April 18, 2003. The Authority approved a fiscal year-end date of March 31. The purpose of the Authority is to provide fire protection and other emergency health and safety services. The incorporating municipalities are Hartland Township and Deerfield Township with each municipality being represented by two members and an appointed citizen member at large.

The five board members appoint its own officers which are the chairperson, vice chairperson and secretary/treasurer, as well as select two additional non-voting and non-member individuals.

In accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 39 "The Financial Reporting Entity", these financial statements present all activities of the Authority. There are no component units of the Authority using the criteria established by the GASB for determining the reporting entity.

#### B. BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

In accordance with GASB Statement No. 34 - Basic Financial Statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis for State and Local Governments, the basic financial statements include both government-wide and fund financial statements.

The government-wide financial statements (Statement of Net Assets and Statement of Activities) report on the Authority as a whole. All activities are reported in the government-wide financial statements using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, which includes long-term assets and receivables as well as long-term debt and obligations. The government-wide financial statements focus more on the sustainability of the Authority as an entity and the change in aggregate financial position resulting from the activities of the fiscal period.

The government-wide Statement of Net Assets reports all financial and capital resources of the Authority. It is displayed in a format of assets less liabilities equals net assets, with the assets and liabilities shown in order of their relative liquidity.

The government-wide Statement of Activities demonstrates the degree to which both direct and indirect expenses of the various functions and programs of the Authority are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or identifiable activity. Indirect expenses for administrative overhead are allocated among the functions and activities using a full cost allocation approach and are presented separately to enhance comparability of direct expense between governments that allocate direct expenses and those that do not. Program revenues include: 1) charges to customers or users who purchase, use or directly benefit from goods, services or privileges provided by a particular function or program and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or program. Taxes, unrestricted investment income and other revenues not identifiable with particular functions or programs are included as general revenues. The general revenues support the net costs of the functions and programs not covered by program revenues.

#### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Also, part of the basic financial statements are fund financial statements for the governmental funds. The focus of the fund financial statements is on major funds, as defined by GASB Statement No. 34. Although this reporting model sets forth minimum criteria for determination of major funds (a percentage of assets, liabilities, revenues, or expenditures of fund category and of the governmental funds combined), it also gives governments the option of displaying other funds as major funds. Other non-major funds are combined in a single column on the fund financial statements.

The Authority reports the following major governmental funds:

The General Fund is the Authority's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the general government, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

The Capital Reserve Equipment Fund accounts for the activity associated with the acquisition of capital assets. This fund is supported by the General Fund and cost recovery revenues.

#### C. MEASUREMENT FOCUS AND BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The governmental fund financial statements are prepared on a current financial resources measurement focus and modified accrual basis of accounting. To conform to the modified accrual basis of accounting, certain modifications must be made to the accrual method. These modifications are outlined below:

- A. Revenue is recorded when it becomes both measurable and available (received within 60 days after year-end). Revenue considered susceptible to accrual includes: property taxes, sales and use taxes, transient occupancy taxes, licenses, fees and permits, intergovernmental revenues, (including motor vehicle license fees), charges for services, fines forfeits and penalties, and interest.
- B. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred. Principal and interest on general long-term debt are recorded as fund liabilities when due or when amounts have been accumulated in the debt service fund for payments to be made early in the following year.
- C. Disbursements for the purchase of capital assets providing future benefits are considered expenditures. Bond proceeds are reported as another financing source.

With this measurement focus, operating statements present increases and decreases in net current assets and unreserved fund balance as a measure of available spendable resources.

This is the traditional basis of accounting for governmental funds and also is the manner in which these funds are normally budgeted. This presentation is deemed most appropriate to: 1) demonstrate legal and covenant compliance, 2) demonstrate the sources and uses of liquid resources, and 3) demonstrate how the Authority's actual revenues and expenditures conform to the annual budget. Since the governmental funds financial statements are presented on a different basis than the governmental activities column of the government-wide financial statements, reconciliation is provided immediately following each fund statement. These reconciliations briefly explain the adjustments necessary to transform the fund financial statements into the governmental activities column of the government-wide financial statements.

#### D. CAPITAL ASSETS

Under GASB Statement No. 34, all capital assets are recorded and depreciated in the government-wide financial statements. No long-term capital assets or depreciation are shown in the governmental funds financial statements.

Capital assets are defined as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than \$5,000 and an estimated useful life
greater than one year. Capital assets are recorded at cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed
Donated capital assets are recorded at the estimated fair market value at the date of donation.

#### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets lives are not capitalized. Major improvements are capitalized and depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets.

#### E. MANAGEMENT ESTIMATES

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### F. BUDGETS

The Authority is required to prepare a proposed annual budget reflecting projected revenues and expenditures of the Authority for the next fiscal year beginning April 1. The proposed budget is presented for the budget meeting in December of the year prior to the end of the fiscal year. The Authority board is then required to submit the proposed budget to the incorporating Municipalities no later than January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. After approval of the proposed budget of a two-thirds majority of the incorporating Municipalities, the Authority Board gives final approval to the Authority budget for the next fiscal year. The budget may be adjusted from time to time upon approval by the Authority Board with a two-thirds majority vote.

#### G. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Authority is exposed to various risks of loss pertaining to property loss, torts, errors and omissions, and employee injuries (workers' compensation), as well as medical benefits provided to employees. The Authority has purchased commercial insurance for these claims. Settled claims related to the commercial insurance have not exceeded the amount of insurance coverage.

#### H. ACCRUED COMPENSATED ABSENCES

The Authority has recorded a liability for compensated absences of the fire department. The policies regarding compensated absences are outlined in the Authority's "Rules of Employment".

#### I. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

The Authority considers its deposits and investments held with maturities of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

#### J. INCOME TAXES

As a governmental agency, the Authority is exempt from both federal income taxes and Michigan Single Business Tax.

#### K. <u>INTERFUND BALANCE AND TRANSFERS</u>

The Authority's General Fund made operating transfers totaling \$165,235 to create the Capital Reserve Equipment Fund to provide for future capital purchases in the Authority. Only \$99,315 of that transfer has been paid, leaving \$65,950 of interfund payables/receivables at March 31, 2008. These receivables/payables are short-term in nature, and is expected to be repaid in the next fiscal year.

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#### NOTE 2 - CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the year ended March 31, 2008 was as follows:

	Balances 4/1/2007	Additions	Deletions	Balances 3/31/2008
Operating equipment Transportation equipment	\$ 89,150 1,418,331	\$	\$	\$ 89,150 1,418,331
	1,507,481			1,507,481
Accumulated depreciation	(647,862)	(129,639)		(777,501)
Governmental activities capital assets, net	\$ 859,619	\$ (129,639)	\$	\$ 729,980

Depreciation expense is being recorded solely for fire protection services. The Authority utilizes the straight line method to depreciate capital assets over their estimated useful lives. There is \$209,006 of debt associated with the transportation equipment.

#### NOTE 3 - DEPOSITS WITH FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND INVESTMENTS

Michigan Compiled Laws, Section 129.91, authorizes the Authority to deposit and invest in the accounts of federally insured banks, credit unions, and savings and loan associations; bonds, securities and other direct obligations of the United States, or any agency or instrumentality of the United States; United States government or Federal agency obligation repurchase agreements; bankers; acceptance of United States banks; commercial paper rated by two standard rating agencies within the two highest classifications, which mature not more than 270 days after the date of purchase; obligations of the State of Michigan or its political subdivisions which are rated investment grade; and mutual funds composed of investment vehicles which are legal for direct investment by local units of government in Michigan. Financial institutions eligible for deposit of public funds must maintain an office in Michigan. The Authority's deposits are in accordance with statutory authority.

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 3 risk disclosures for the Authority's deposits are as follows:

<u>Deposits</u>	Carrying Amount	Bank Balance		
Insured Uninsured and uncollateralized	\$ 100,000 249,334	\$ 100,000 260,272		
	\$ 349,334	\$ 360,272		

The Authority maintains an imprest petty cash fund of \$110.

#### NOTE 3 - DEPOSITS WITH FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND INVESTMENTS (continued)

The Authority's cash and investments are subject to types of risk, which are examined in more detail below:

#### Custodial Credit Risk of Bank Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the Authority's deposits may not be returned to it. The Authority does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk. At year end, the Authority had \$260,272 of bank deposits (certificates of deposit, checking, and savings accounts) that were uninsured and uncollateralized. The Authority believes that due to the dollar amounts of cash deposits and the limited of FDIC insurance, it is impractical to insure all deposits. As a result, the Authority evaluates each financial institution with which it deposits funds and assesses the level of risk of each institution; only those institutions which an acceptable estimated risk level are used as depositories.

#### Concentration of Credit Risk

The Authority places no limit on the amount the Authority may invest in any one issuer.

#### NOTE 4 - LEASE AGREEMENT

The Authority has a signed lease agreement with Hartland Township to lease the fire hall located at 3205 Hartland Road #61 and the sub-station located at 5965 Old US 23 #62 for \$1 per year for 10 years effective October 1, 2003.

#### NOTE 5 - LONG-TERM DEBT

The following is a summary of long-term debt activity for the Authority:

	Balances 4/1/2007	Additions	Deletions	Balances 3/31/2008	Due in One Year
CAPITAL LEASES GMAC - 2 trucks Oshkosh Capital - 2004 pierce	\$ 17,752 270,180	\$	\$ 15,764 63,162	\$ 1,988 207,018	\$ 1,988 65,998
Total capital leases	287,932		78,926	209,006	67,986
NOTE PAYABLE - HARTLAND TOWNSHIP SCBA equipment	82,989		17,471	65,518	17,471
Total debt	\$ 370,921	\$	\$ 96,397	\$ 274,524	\$ 85,457

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#### NOTE 5 - GENERAL LONG-TERM DEBT (continued)

#### **CAPITAL LEASES**

- GMAC 2 trucks As part of the asset transfer agreement between the Authority and Hartland Township, the Authority took over two loans with GMAC originally assigned to Hartland Township at the net present value of \$72,250. The loans were financed with no interest. The monthly payment amounts are \$639.01 and \$674.63 for a 2003 pick-up truck and 2003 C2500 truck respectively until their maturity in April and May 2008 respectively.
- 2. Oshkosh Capital 2004 Pierce The Authority entered into a capital lease to purchase a 2004 pumper. The Authority is responsible for annual payments of \$75,293.25 which includes interest of 4.49%. The maturity date is March 31, 2011.

#### NOTE PAYABLE

1. The Authority issued a note payable on October 15, 2004 to Hartland Township to purchase SCBA equipment totaling \$122,300. The loan requires quarterly payments of \$4,367.86 plus 1.75% interest of the unpaid balance until maturity in the year ended March 31, 2012.

The following schedule details future debt outflows of the Authority:

	CAPITAL LEASES							
Date of Payment		Principal	Interest			Total		
3/31/2009	\$	67,986	\$	9,295	\$	77,281		
3/31/2010		68,961		6,332		75,293		
3/31/2011		72,059		3,235		75,294		
Totals	\$	209,006	\$	18,862	\$	227,868		

		NOTE PAYABLE - HARTLAND TOWNSH						
Date of Payment	P	Principal		Interest		Total		
3/31/2009	\$	17,471	\$	1,032	\$	18,503		
3/31/2010		17,471		726		18,197		
3/31/2011		17,471		420		17,891		
3/31/2012		13,105		115		13,220		
Totals	\$	65,518	\$	2,293	\$	67,811		

### NOTE 6 - DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN - MICHIGAN MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (MERS)

The Authority provides a defined benefit pension plan under MERS. MERS is an agent multiple-employer; state-wide, defined benefit public employee retirement plan created under Public Act 135 of 1945 and now operates under Public Act 220 of 1996. MERS was established by the State of Michigan for purposes of providing retirement, survivor and disability benefits on a voluntary basis to the State's local government employees. Under Public Act 220, MERS became an independent public non-profit corporation independent from State government. The effective date of independence was August 16, 1996, at which time MERS ceased to be a part of the State of Michigan, Department of Management and Budget.

As of March 31, 2008 the Authority had four covered employees and 79 total employees. Covered and total payrolls for the year then ended were \$216,204 and \$611,675 respectively. Currently there are no retirants receiving benefits from the plan. Total contributions made to the plan during the year ended were \$27,155.

At December 31, 2007, the unfunded pension liability was \$44,367, determined as follows:

#### **Actuarial Accrued Liability**

Retirees and beneficiaries currently receiving benefits	\$ 0
Terminated employees not yet receiving benefits	0
Current employees - Accumulated employee contributions including allocated investment income	0
Employer financed	 157,768
Total actuarial accrued liability	157,768
Net assets available for benefits at actuarial value	113,401
Unfunded actuarial accrued liability	\$ 44,367

The combined change in the pension benefit resulting from benefit changes, if any, and revisions in actuarial assumptions is 0.055889.

#### **Analysis of Funding Progress**

Valuation Date December 31	Net Assets Available for Benefits	Pension Benefit Obligation (PBO)	Percent Funded (1)/(2)	Unfunded (Over funded) PBO (2)-(1)	Annual Covered Payroll	Unfunded PBO as a % of Covered Payroll
2004	22,499	26,986	83%	4,487	190,021	2%
2005	51,287	63,563	81%	12,276	200,627	6%
2006	81,887	107,911	76%	26,024	207,128	13%
2007	113,401	157,768	72%	44,367	214,203	21%

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Actuarial data beyond December 31, 2007 was not available as of the writing of this report.

#### NOTE 7 - EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT PLAN

The Authority participated in the ING Financial Defined Contribution Pension Plan Group No. 89571 for Michigan Authority employees until December 2007. Starting January 2008 the Authority began participating in the First Investors Defined Contribution Pension Plan Group. Both plans are a single-employer plan. As of March 31, 2008 ING Financial Funds have not been completely transferred to First Investors for all participating employees. Substantially all full-time employees are included in one of the plans. Six months of service is required to determine eligibility. The Authority contributes 5% of participant's compensation, while an employee may contribute 1% to 25% of compensation pre-tax. Annual compensation used to determine the current year contribution is as of April 1, preceding the year. Contribution information is as follows:

TOTAL CURRENT YEAR EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS

\$11,810

TOTAL CURRENT YEAR EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS

\$ 7,372

These balances reflect contributions for the period from April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008.

#### NOTE 8 - NOTE RECEIVABLE - SETTLEMENT WITH TYRONE TOWNSHIP

Tyrone Township withdrew from the Authority effective March 31, 2006. After mediation the remaining Authority members (Hartland and Deerfield Townships) and Tyrone Township came to an agreement regarding the settlement amount between both parties. The agreement calls for Tyrone Township to pay \$325,000 to the Authority as \$130,000 down and five equal annual installments of \$39,000 with no interest. The down payment of \$130,000 was paid prior to March 31, 2007 and a note receivable for \$195,000 was set-up for the remaining amount. As of March 31, 2008 there is an outstanding balance of \$156,000 due to the Authority.

REQUIRED
SUPPLEMENTARY
INFORMATION

### HARTLAND DEERFIELD FIRE AUTHORITY GENERAL FUND

## STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2008

Variance

	Bud	aets		with Final Budget Favorable	
	Original	Final	Actual	(Unfavorable)	
REVENUES Hartland Township - contributions Deerfield Township - contributions Fire runs Interest income Other revenue	\$ 896,502 199,064 47,000 6,000	\$ 896,502 199,064 47,000 6,000	\$ 896,502 199,064 43,341 9,831 3,310	\$ (3,659) 3,831 3,310	
Total revenues	1,148,566	1,148,566	1,152,048	3,482	
EXPENDITURES Personnel Employment Administrative services and supplies Contingency Contractual services Operating supplies Repairs and maintenance Utilities Capital outlay and debt repayment  Total expenditures  Excess of revenues under (over) expenditures	682,857 31,000 41,750 6,500 52,250 49,953 50,350 35,240 128,666 1,078,566	769,408 21,650 41,960 38,350 45,853 55,460 29,580 119,316 1,121,577	734,543 21,499 38,349 41,766 51,770 56,528 29,585 119,216 1,093,256	34,865 151 3,611 (3,416) (5,917) (1,068) (5) 100 28,321	
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES) Transfers (out)	(70,000)	(26,950)	(165,235)	(138,285)	
Net change in fund balance		39	(106,443)	(106,482)	
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	383,391	383,391	383,391		
ENDING FUND BALANCE	\$ 383,391	\$ 383,430	\$ 276,948	\$ (106,482)	

# HARTLAND DEERFIELD FIRE AUTHORITY CAPITAL RESERVE EQUIPMENT FUND STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2008

	Bud Original	dgets Final	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)	
REVENUES Interest	\$	\$	\$ 3,135	\$ 3,135	
EXPENDITURES					
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures			3,135	3,135	
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES) Transfers in	70,000	26,950	165,235	138,285	
Net change in fund balance	70,000	26,950	168,370	141,420	
FUND BALANCE, APRIL 1, 2007					
FUND BALANCE, MARCH 31, 2008	\$ 70,000	\$ 26,950	\$ 168,370	\$ 141,420	

#### HARTLAND DEERFIELD FIRE AUTHORITY SCHEDULES OF PENSION FUNDING PROGRESS (UNAUDITED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2008

In accordance with the Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statements No. 25 and 27, the following information is a required part of the basic financial statements.

#### **FIRE EMPLOYEES**

					Jnfunded ver funded)			UAAL as a
Actuarial Valuation Date	,	ctuarial Value of Assets	Actuarial Accrued ability (AAL)	<u> </u>	Accrued Liability (UAAL)	Funded Ratio	Covered Payroll	Percentage of Covered Payroll
December 31, 2004	\$	22,499	\$ 26,986	\$	4,487	83.37%	\$ 190,021	2.36%
December 31, 2005	\$	51,287	\$ 63,563	\$	12,276	80.69%	\$ 200,627	6.12%
December 31, 2006	\$	81,887	\$ 107,911	\$	26,024	75.88%	\$ 207,128	12.56%
December 31, 2007	\$	113,401	\$ 157,768	\$	44,367	71.88%	\$ 214,203	20.71%

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

### HARTLAND DEERFIELD FIRE AUTHORITY GENERAL FUND

### STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2008

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
REVENUES Hartland Township - contributions	\$ 896,502	\$ 896,502	\$
Deerfield Township - contributions	199,064	199,064	()
Fire runs	47,000	43,341	(3,659)
Interest income	6,000	9,831	3,831
Other revenue		3,310	3,310
Total revenues	1,148,566	1,152,048	3,482
EXPENDITURES			
Personnel	769,408	734,543	34,865
Employment	21,650	21,499	151
Administrative services and supplies	41,960	38,349	3,611
Contractual services	38,350	41,766	(3,416)
Operating supplies	45,853	51,770	(5,917)
Repairs and maintenance	55,460	56,528	(1,068)
Utilities	29,580	29,585	(5)
Capital outlay and debt repayment	119,316	119,216	100
Total expenditures	1,121,577	1,093,256	28,321
Excess of revenues under (over) expenditures	26,989	58,792	31,803
OTHER FINANCING (USES)			
Transfers (out)	(26,950)	(165,235)	(138,285)
Net change in fund balance	39	(106,443)	(106,482)
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	383,391	383,391	
ENDING FUND BALANCE	\$ 383,430	\$ 276,948	\$ (106,482)

## HARTLAND DEERFIELD FIRE AUTHORITY GENERAL FUND STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2008

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
PERSONNEL Chief wages Scheduled employee wages Scheduled employee - overtime wages On-call employees' wages Per diems - fire board wages Payroll taxes Medical insurance Disability - life insurance Workers compensation insurance Retirement (MERS and deferred compensation)	\$	\$ 77,359 123,938 2,034 377,836 5,575 43,936 15,536 12,495 36,869 38,965	\$
Total personnel	769,408	734,543	34,865
EMPLOYMENT Uniforms and clothing allowance Physicals and medical expense Education and training	21 650	2,625 7,060 11,814	
Total employment	21,650	21,499	151
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND SUPPLIES Office supplies Furniture Postage Computers and software Dues and membership Telephone Printing and publishing Liability insurance Bank fees		2,503 2,289 552 5,497 971 4,804 2,262 19,251	
Total administrative services and supplies	41,960	38,349	3,611
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES Grounds maintenance Accounting Computer Auditing services Attorney fees		23,183 4,263 3,690 8,500 2,130	
Total contractual services	38,350	41,766	(3,416)

# HARTLAND DEERFIELD FIRE AUTHORITY GENERAL FUND STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2008

OPERATING SUPPLIES         2,662           Uniforms and protective clothing         2,662           Employee support         1,051           Janitorial         1,500           Fire prevention         1,934           Operating supplies         2,069           Tools         682           Small equipment         1,168           Medical supplies         2,046           Foam         3,687           Cellular phones         7,482           Radio equipment         4,860           Fuel         22,629           Total operating supplies         45,853         51,770         (5,917)           REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE         Equipment repairs         4,288         4,288           Vehicle repairs         47,597         9         9         1,132         Administrative supplies - repairs         1,132         Administrative supplies - repairs         1,132         Administrative supplies - repairs         1,660         1,132         Administrative supplies - repairs         1,660         1,068)           UTILITIES         3         5,460         56,528         (1,068)           UTILITIES         6         680         411         411         411         411         411         <		Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Uniforms and protective clothing         2,662           Employee support         1,051           Janitorial         1,500           Fire prevention         1,934           Operating supplies         2,069           Tools         682           Small equipment         1,168           Medical supplies         2,046           Foam         3,687           Cellular phones         7,482           Radio equipment         4,860           Fuel         22,629           Total operating supplies         45,853         51,770         (5,917)           REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE         Equipment repairs         4,288           Vehicle repairs         4,285         Vehicle repairs           Building repairs         1,851         Radios - repairs         1,851           Radios - repairs         1,860         1,660           Total repairs and maintenance         55,460         56,528         (1,068)           UTILITIES         68         13,077           Electricity         15,417         Sewer         680           Water         411         411           Total utilities         29,580         29,585         (5)           <	OPERATING SUPPLIES			
Employee support			2 662	
Janitorial         1,500           Fire prevention         1,934           Operating supplies         2,069           Tools         682           Small equipment         1,168           Medical supplies         2,046           Foam         3,687           Cellular phones         7,482           Radio equipment         4,860           Fuel         22,629           Total operating supplies         45,853         51,770         (5,917)           REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE         Equipment repairs         4,288         Vehicle repairs         47,597         Suilding repairs         1,851         Radios - repairs         1,851         Radios - repairs         1,660	•			
Fire prevention         1,934           Operating supplies         2,069           Tools         682           Small equipment         1,168           Medical supplies         2,046           Foam         3,687           Cellular phones         7,482           Radio equipment         4,860           Fuel         22,629           Total operating supplies         45,853         51,770         (5,917)           REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE         Equipment repairs         4,288         47,597         4,288         4,288         4,288         4,281				
Operating supplies         2,069           Tools         682           Small equipment         1,168           Medical supplies         2,046           Foam         3,687           Cellular phones         7,482           Radio equipment         4,860           Fuel         22,629           Total operating supplies         45,853         51,770         (5,917)           REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE         Equipment repairs         4,288         47,597         Vehicle repairs         1,851         Radios - repairs - repairs         1,851         Radios - repairs - repairs         1,132         Administrative supplies - repairs         1,660         Incomplete - repairs				
Tools         682           Small equipment         1,168           Medical supplies         2,046           Foam         3,687           Cellular phones         7,482           Radio equipment         4,860           Fuel         22,629           Total operating supplies         45,853         51,770         (5,917)           REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE         Equipment repairs         4,288           Vehicle repairs         47,597         Building repairs         1,851           Radios - repairs         1,851         Radios - repairs         1,660           Total repairs and maintenance         55,460         56,528         (1,068)           UTILITIES         3         13,077         Electricity         15,417         Sewer         680           Water         411				
Small equipment       1,168         Medical supplies       2,046         Foam       3,687         Cellular phones       7,482         Radio equipment       4,860         Fuel       22,629         Total operating supplies       45,853       51,770       (5,917)         REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE       Equipment repairs       4,288         Vehicle repairs       47,597       4,281         Building repairs       1,851       4,851         Radios - repairs       1,860       1,660         Total repairs and maintenance       55,460       56,528       (1,068)         UTILITIES       3       13,077       Electricity       15,417       58         Sewer       680	. •			
Medical supplies         2,046           Foam         3,687           Cellular phones         7,482           Radio equipment         4,860           Fuel         22,629           Total operating supplies         45,853         51,770         (5,917)           REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE         Equipment repairs         4,288         Vehicle repairs         47,597         Secondary of the pairs of				
Foam	·			
Cellular phones       7,482         Radio equipment       4,860         Fuel       22,629         Total operating supplies       45,853       51,770       (5,917)         REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE       4,288       4,288       Vehicle repairs       47,597       4,281 <t< td=""><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></t<>				
Radio equipment         4,860           Fuel         22,629           Total operating supplies         45,853         51,770         (5,917)           REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE         Equipment repairs         4,288         47,597         Building repairs         1,851         Radios - repairs and repairs         1,851         Radios - repairs and repairs         1,132         Administrative supplies - repairs         1,660         1,660         Total repairs and maintenance         55,460         56,528         (1,068)           UTILITIES         Gas         13,077         Electricity         15,417         Sewer         680           Water         411         <				
Fuel         22,629           Total operating supplies         45,853         51,770         (5,917)           REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE         4,288         Vehicle repairs         4,288         Vehicle repairs         47,597         Building repairs         1,851         Radios - repairs         1,851         Radios - repairs         1,132         Administrative supplies - repairs         1,660         Total repairs and maintenance         55,460         56,528         (1,068)           UTILITIES         Gas         13,077         Electricity         15,417         Sewer         680         Water         411         Total utilities         29,580         29,585         (5)           CAPITAL OUTLAY         Equipment - operating         96,397         96,397         Debt service - principle         96,397           Debt service - interest         13,469	·			
Total operating supplies				
REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE         Equipment repairs       4,288         Vehicle repairs       47,597         Building repairs       1,851         Radios - repairs       1,132         Administrative supplies - repairs       1,660         Total repairs and maintenance       55,460       56,528       (1,068)         UTILITIES       3       13,077       Electricity       15,417       Sewer       680			,	
Equipment repairs       4,288         Vehicle repairs       47,597         Building repairs       1,851         Radios - repairs       1,132         Administrative supplies - repairs       1,660         Total repairs and maintenance       55,460       56,528       (1,068)         UTILITIES       Gas       13,077         Electricity       15,417       Sewer       680         Water       411         Total utilities       29,580       29,585       (5)         CAPITAL OUTLAY       Equipment - operating       9,350         Debt service - principle       96,397         Debt service - interest       13,469	Total operating supplies	45,853	51,770	(5,917)
Equipment repairs       4,288         Vehicle repairs       47,597         Building repairs       1,851         Radios - repairs       1,132         Administrative supplies - repairs       1,660         Total repairs and maintenance       55,460       56,528       (1,068)         UTILITIES       Gas       13,077         Electricity       15,417       Sewer       680         Water       411         Total utilities       29,580       29,585       (5)         CAPITAL OUTLAY       Equipment - operating       9,350         Debt service - principle       96,397         Debt service - interest       13,469	REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE			
Vehicle repairs       47,597         Building repairs       1,851         Radios - repairs       1,132         Administrative supplies - repairs       1,660         Total repairs and maintenance       55,460       56,528       (1,068)         UTILITIES       3       13,077       15,417       15,417       15,417       15,417       15,417       15,417       15,417       15,417       15,417       15,411       <			4 288	
Building repairs       1,851         Radios - repairs       1,132         Administrative supplies - repairs       1,660         Total repairs and maintenance       55,460       56,528       (1,068)         UTILITIES       3       13,077       15,417       15,				
Radios - repairs       1,132         Administrative supplies - repairs       1,660         Total repairs and maintenance       55,460       56,528       (1,068)         UTILITIES       3       13,077       15,417       15,417       15,417       15,417       15,417       15,417       15,417       15,411 <td>·</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>	·			
Administrative supplies - repairs         1,660           Total repairs and maintenance         55,460         56,528         (1,068)           UTILITIES         3         13,077         15,417				
Total repairs and maintenance         55,460         56,528         (1,068)           UTILITIES         3,077         13,077         15,417         15,417         15,417         15,417         15,417         15,417         15,417         15,417         15,417         15,417         15,417         15,417         15,417         15,417         15,417         14,411         1,411	·			
UTILITIES         Gas       13,077         Electricity       15,417         Sewer       680         Water       411         Total utilities       29,580       29,585       (5)         CAPITAL OUTLAY       Equipment - operating       9,350         Debt service - principle       96,397         Debt service - interest       13,469	Administrative supplies Tepairs		1,000	
Gas       13,077         Electricity       15,417         Sewer       680         Water       411         Total utilities       29,580       29,585       (5)         CAPITAL OUTLAY       Equipment - operating       9,350         Debt service - principle       96,397       96,397         Debt service - interest       13,469	Total repairs and maintenance	55,460	56,528	(1,068)
Gas       13,077         Electricity       15,417         Sewer       680         Water       411         Total utilities       29,580       29,585       (5)         CAPITAL OUTLAY       Equipment - operating       9,350         Debt service - principle       96,397       96,397         Debt service - interest       13,469	UTILITIES			
Electricity       15,417         Sewer       680         Water       411         Total utilities       29,580       29,585       (5)         CAPITAL OUTLAY       Equipment - operating       9,350         Debt service - principle       96,397       96,397         Debt service - interest       13,469			13.077	
Sewer Water         680 411           Total utilities         29,580 29,585 (5)           CAPITAL OUTLAY Equipment - operating Debt service - principle Debt service - interest         9,350 96,397 13,469				
Water         411           Total utilities         29,580         29,585         (5)           CAPITAL OUTLAY         Equipment - operating 9,350         9,350         96,397	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
CAPITAL OUTLAY Equipment - operating 9,350 Debt service - principle 96,397 Debt service - interest 13,469	Water		411	
CAPITAL OUTLAY Equipment - operating 9,350 Debt service - principle 96,397 Debt service - interest 13,469				
Equipment - operating 9,350  Debt service - principle 96,397  Debt service - interest 13,469	Total utilities	29,580	29,585	(5)
Equipment - operating 9,350  Debt service - principle 96,397  Debt service - interest 13,469	CAPITAL OUTLAY			
Debt service - principle 96,397 Debt service - interest 13,469			9.350	
Debt service - interest 13,469				
Total capital outlay				
	Total capital outlay	119,316	119,216	100
Total expenditures \$ 1,121,577 \$ 1,093,256 \$ 28,321	Total expenditures	\$ 1,121,577	\$ 1,093,256	\$ 28,321



### PFEFFER • HANNIFORD • PALKA Certified Public Accountants

John M. Pfeffer, C.P.A. Patrick M. Hanniford, C.P.A. Kenneth J. Palka, C.P.A.

Members: AICPA Private Practice Companies Section MACPA 225 E. Grand River - Suite 104 Brighton, Michigan 48116-1575 (810) 229-5550 FAX (810) 229-5578

August 12, 2008

Board of Trustees Hartland Deerfield Fire Authority 3205 Hartland Road Hartland, MI 48353

Dear Honorable Board of Trustees:

During our audit of the Hartland Deerfield Fire Authority we came across various matters that we would like to discuss with you as part of our audit presentation for the year ending March 31, 2008.

The matters which we would like to discuss with you are as follows:

There is a new auditing standard (SAS #112) which we are required to follow as your auditing firm. This new standard relates to more formal communications by us to you regarding significant deficiencies in your internal controls and accounting procedures.

There are certain issues (deficiencies) which were previously considered general comments but under the new standard are now considered significant deficiencies.

A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the entity's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process or report financial data reliably in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the entity's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

We consider the following to be material weaknesses of the Authority.

- Journal entries were required during the audit to ensure the financial statement presentation was in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. It should be noted that these journal entries were related to the full-accrual presentation of the government-wide statements (converting fund financial statements to full accrual statements).
- The Authority has one individual maintaining the general ledger, reconciling the bank accounts, writing and posting checks, and signing checks (ability to disburse funds). We consider this a lack of segregation of duties.

As you are aware we have previously discussed the above weaknesses with you. The following is your response:

#### Response by Management

We understand that you must follow the aforementioned auditing standard to complete the audit in accordance with Generally Accepted Auditing Standards as applicable to the audit of the Authority.

In regards to point number one (1) of the above material weaknesses, we prefer that you as our auditing firm continue to make the applicable journal entries to convert the fund financial statements to full accrual statements as required by GASB 34. We believe the costs to circumvent this comment would outweigh the benefits to the Authority. Therefore, we completely understand the comment and request that Pfeffer, Hanniford & Palka, CPA's continue to make the conversion journal entries in the future.

In regards to point number two (2) of the above material weaknesses, we understand that one person is conducting various overlapping accounting functions and there is clearly a lack of segregation of duties. However, as you know we are a very small organization and the costs to circumvent this problem outweigh the benefit of improved controls. Until the Authority can afford to hire additional personnel we can not change this practice.

#### Other Matters

1. We noticed while analyzing the fire runs revenue account there was a difference between the general ledger and the billing system of approximately \$1,200 (billing system showed more revenues). After the staff of the Hartland Deerfield Fire Authority did some investigating, it was found that a deposit dated December 27, 2007 was not made. The related checks and deposit slip was found in some miscellaneous files. The deposit was recently made. In the future, we recommend deposits be made as soon as possible (day received if possible) so as to reduce the risk of losing the checks prior to deposit.

In subsequent testing we noticed a check written to the Authority on May 1, 2008 was not deposited until July 14, 2008.

In our discussion with staff of Hartland Deerfield Fire Authority it has come to our attention there seems to be some confusion as to who should be making deposits.

The following is our response and explanation:

Since the accountant does bank reconciliations and has ability to disburse funds we suggest someone outside of the accounting process make the deposits such as the Chief or another employee especially when there is cash involved. The deposit should be made after the accountant has posted the transaction to the general ledger. When the Chief or other employee is not available and will not become available for some time it is better for the accountant to make the deposit (if no cash is included) on a timely basis.

- 2. As noted in the prior year comments, there were several outstanding checks over several months old. The Authority should take appropriate steps in clearing these checks from the outstanding list.
- 3. Checks written to the Authority are not stamped "For Deposit Only" until they are prepared for deposit. We suggest the checks be stamped immediately, such as when mail is opened.

- 4. We noted the Authority's new plan administrator, (deferred compensation plan) First Investors, does not provide reports which show employees contributions and employer's contributions separately. The Authority should request these types of reports in order to match with its records.
- 5. In the comments noted for March 31, 2007 we noted a Homeowner's Association did not pay its fourth quarter fee for fire protection services of \$8,215 which was recorded as a receivable for March 31, 2007. The outstanding amount was not received by the Authority through March 31, 2008. The amount remains as a receivable. This amount should be collected or written-off as a bad debt expense in the year ending March 31, 2009.

We also noted the Homeowner's Association did not pay the full annual fee for March 31, 2008. The amount was short \$230 which also should be collected.

- 6. During the time we spent conducting fieldwork on-site at the fire station in Hartland we noted the ease of accessibility of going in and out. We suggest accessibility be more limited. The bay doors should only be opened when personnel are present in the bay areas. We believe this would increase overall security at the station.
- 7. The Authority does not maintain a list of employees with access to the various software systems. Also, passwords are not changed on a consistent basis. An individual should be made responsible for maintaining such records as well as issuing new passwords on a consistent interim basis.
- 8. We noted that the Chief is allowed to waive fees and (or) write-off receivables. However, a list of waived fees or write-offs of accounts receivable do not go before the Board for their review. We suggest a policy be adopted in which the board has an opportunity to review the aforementioned either monthly or quarterly. This list should reconcile with the billing system and general ledger.
- 9. While discussing personnel policies with the Authority staff we noted there is no conflict of interest or related party policies approved by the Board in writing. It does appear there are verbal policies. The Authority should consider approving written policies in these areas.

This letter does not affect our report dated August 12, 2008 on the financial statements of the Hartland Deerfield Fire Authority.

We will review the status of these matters during our next audit engagement. We have already discussed these with various Authority personnel, and we will be pleased to discuss them in further detail at your convenience, to perform any additional study of these matters, or to assist you in implementing the recommendations.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Trustees and management of the Hartland Deerfield Fire Authority and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than the specified parties.

PFEFFER, HANNIFORD & PALKA

Pfeffer, Hanniford & Palka, P.C.

Certified Public Accountants